

## **ABSTRACT**

This research presents a deconstructive analysis in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* to show how the author indirectly mocks the arrogance and hypocrisy of Puritans. The analysis focuses on finding the author's indirect mockery through Peter Barry's verbal stage of deconstructive process which is finding the paradox, irony and the reversal of binary opposition in the text. The analysis show that the author indirectly mocked Puritans' arrogance and hypocrisy through characterization of the characters, the scarlet letter and nature. It can be found in the paradox and irony in the text. The reversal of binary oppositions can be found in Man/Woman, Goodness/Evilness and Truth/Falsehood. These reversed binary oppositions also shows the same thing; the author's indirect mockery to the arrogance and hypocrisy of Puritans.

**Keywords:** Puritan, deconstructive process, paradox, irony, binary opposition.